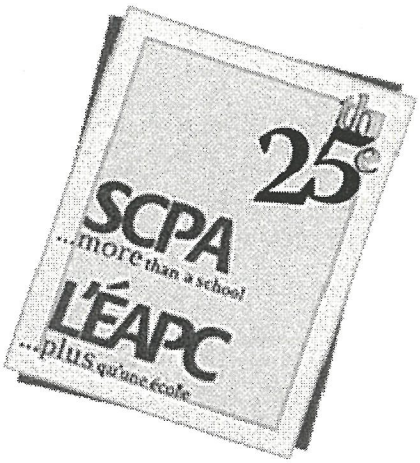
School of Community and Public Affairs
Concordia University



Annual Report
2004-2005

July 15, 2005

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Presentation

The School of Community and Public Affairs (SCPA) is one of five colleges of Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science offering a unique interdisciplinary education focussed largely on the study and analysis of public policies and state-society relations. The academic year 2004-2005 marked the 25th anniversary of the School.

Over the past five years, the SCPA has experienced remarkable changes in institutional status and academic purpose. Until the late 1990s, the School offered an undergraduate program derived largely from courses of other departments of the Faculty of Arts and Science. It did not exist as degree-granting unit and relied on 1.5 faculty members directly attached to the School and between 8 and 12 fellows, faculty members from other departments. In 2000-2001, the School was allowed to offer a new graduate diploma in Community Economic Development and hired Dr. Eric Shragge, formerly of the School of Social Work at McGill University, to head this new program. In 2001-2002, the School implemented its own undergraduate Major in Community, Public Affairs and Policy Studies, with a majority of courses drawn from the college's own curriculum.

In 2004-2005, we strengthened our two academic programs by hiring Dr. Martine D'Amours, a specialist in labor policy and the sociology of non-standard work. Dr. D'Amours joined the School as Assistant Professor in July 2004.

Academic

Faculty and teaching resources

The SCPA currently has a faculty complement of 3.5, established as follows:

Dr. Martine D'Amours:	Assistant Professor, full appointment in the SCPA (1)
Dr. Marguerite Mendell:	Vice Principal, Associate Professor, full appointment in the SCPA (1)
Dr. Daniel Salée:	Principal, Professor, cross appointment with Political Science (0.5)
Dr. Eric Shragge:	Graduate Program Director, Associate Professor, full appointment in the SCPA (1)

In addition, the Hon. David MacDonald completed a ten-year stint as Adjunct Professor teaching our Senior undergraduate seminar, and acting as resource person and policy specialist in residence.

Two other practitioners also contributed their expertise to teaching two of our key courses: Ms. Theodora Samiotis, Director of Federal Affairs and Health Policy at Wyeth Canada and a graduate of the SCPA, gave our course on *Public Affairs Strategies*, and Mr. Michel Tremblay, retired senior economist at the Royal Bank, gave our course on *Economics for Public Policy and Community Development*.

The graduate diploma in Community Economic Development, was also able once more to benefit from experienced community practitioners such as Norman Nawrocki, Frances Ravensbergen, Josée Belleau, Aziz Choudry, Colin Bérubé, Denise Nadeau, Lise Latrémouille and Colin Bérubé, and from seasoned academics like David Newhouse (Trent), Wanda Wuttunee (Manitoba), Jean Panet-Raymond (Montréal) and Ghislaine Guérard (Concordia).

Staff

The School's academic staff relies on the support of Mr. Perry Calce, Academic Programs Coordinator and Curriculum Development, and Ms. Cristina Ochando, Administrative Assistant. In his capacity, Mr. Calce recruits and advises students, supervises internships and assists the Principal and the Graduate Program Director in their administrative duties. Ms. Ochando oversees budget, answers requests from students and the general public, liaises with other units of the university and assists the teaching staff with administrative and ancillary issues.

Enrollment

Every year, we receive between 125 and 150 applications from students in CEGEP and other Canadian universities seeking admission in our undergraduate Major. We recruit on

average between 40 and 45 new students, and 30 to 40 accept our offer. In 2004-2005, 38 new students registered in the School's undergraduate program.

In our graduate diploma in Community Economic Development, we process about 50 applications every year and admit about 30 new students. In 2004-2005, we admitted 32 students; two deferred their admission and four eventually dropped the program before the end of the first semester. The program carried a cohort of 26 new students through the year.

Internships

As part of their regular course of studies students enrolled in the undergraduate Major must complete a practicum in some aspect of community and public affairs. Such practicum takes the form of a three-month internship, usually held during the summer between the second and third year of the program. Placements are drawn from the private sector, government and community service organizations. In 2004-2005 interns were assigned to the following organizations:

Canadian Parents for French, Quebec branch
McKesson Canada
Unicef
Ministère de la protection de la jeunesse et de la réadaptation
Black Coalition of Quebec
Montreal Holocaust Memorial Center
La Tohu
Center for Research Action on Race Relations
Summer Works Student Exchange Program (HRDC)
Eleni Bakopanos, MP for Ahuntsic, Minister responsible for Social Economy
Jean Lapierre, MP for Outremont, Minister of Transportation
Chantier de l'économie sociale
Environment Canada
Social Development Canada (Corporate Management and Public Affairs Branch)
American Jewish World Services
Montreal Association for the Blind
Literacy Partners of Quebec
Centre de la petite enfance G.B. Scalabrini
Apathy is Boring (community group)
International Bureau of Children's Rights

Academic and program development

Since 2002, the SCPA has been involved, in partnership with the Center for Native Education, in the development of a new undergraduate interdisciplinary program in First Peoples Studies. After thorough consideration by the Faculty Curriculum Committee, a full proposal was submitted to the Social Science Chairs in winter 2005. It was agreed that the proposal should be submitted to Faculty Council for approval later in the year

conditional to minor corrections. The document will be brought to Faculty Council in early fall 2005. If approved by the various bodies of the university and by CREPUQ, the program will be housed initially in the SCPA.

The Graduate Program Director, Dr. Eric Shragge, has also been working on the development of Masters in Community Development. This proposal is currently being examined by the Faculty Curriculum Committee.

International

The Ukraine Project

The SCPA has been working through the year in partnership with the Institute in Management and Community Development and the Canadian Bureau of International Education (CBIE) to deliver an intensive seven-week program in Community Economic Development (financed by the Canadian International Development Agency – CIDA) during the summer of 2005 in the context of CBIE's Community Economic Development Ukraine Project. The main goal of this project is to provide Canadian expertise in community economic development to a wide variety of partner organizations in Ukraine and facilitate community empowerment and initiatives in that country. In July, 2005, ten academics from Uzhhorod University and Cherkasy State Technological University will begin the seven-week program. Dr. Eric Shragge and Mr. Perry Calce have been largely responsible for organizing and bringing this initiative at Concordia. This particular project is scheduled to be offered again in 2006 and 2007. Another similar initiative involving Vietnam is currently being developed.

Argentina

In April, 2005, Dr. Martine D'Amours and Dr. Marguerite Mendell participated in a two-week seminar and international exchange at the Instituto de Investigacion y Formacion en Administracion Publica of the National University of Cordoba in Argentina. They were part of a delegation of Montreal scholars specialized in various aspects of social policy invited in Argentina to attend an international conference on contemporary social policy and to hold lectures and seminars at the National University of Cordoba. This initiative was co-sponsored by the Institut national de la recherche scientifique (Urbanisation, Culture et Société), Concordia's Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy and the National University of Cordoba.

Research

The full-time faculty members of the SCPA are all active, successful research scholars who are the recipients of SSHRC and FQRSC funds. Altogether, they are currently managing, as principal investigators, $439 227 worth of research grants and contracts from different sources. In addition, as co-investigators, they are involved in several, large, national research projects and centers. Over the past three years they have taken part in multi-university research initiatives that have been awarded $8 693 807 in total. Their expertise is regularly sought after by public organizations, NGOs and state agencies in the following fields:

Dr. Martine D'Amours: Labor policies. Non standard work arrangements.
Member of the Centre de recherche sur les innovations socials en enterprises (CRISES) and of ARUC-Économie sociale.

Dr. Marguerite Mendell: Social Economy. Local Development. Social and Economic Policy.
Member of the Centre de recherche sur les innovations socials en enterprises (CRISES) and of ARUC-Économie sociale.
Director, Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy

Dr. Daniel Salée: Citizenship. Identity politics. State-Indigenous peoples relations. State management of ethnocultural diversity.
Member of the Centre de recherche sur l'immigration, l'ethnicité et la citoyenneté (CRIEC).
Executive officer, DIALOG – le réseau québécois d'échange sur les questions autochtones
Director, Concordia-UQAM Chair in Ethnic Studies (Concordia section).

Dr. Eric Shragge: Community Economic Development. Aboriginal practices of community economic development. Urban popular movements.

Ongoing research grants

Martine D'Amours

Title: *Le filet "troué" de protection sociale et les strategies de gestion du risque: le cas de trois groupes de travailleurs indépendants.*
Agency: FQRSC
Program: Nouveaux chercheurs

Status: Principal investigator
Amount: $38 374
Duration: 2005-2008

Title: *Collective Actors and Non Standard Work Arrangements: An Exploratory Research*
Agency: Arts and Science, Concordia
Program: General Research Fund
Status: Principal investigator
Amount: $4 348
Duration: 2005

Title: Start up grant
Agency: Arts and Science, Concordia
Program: FRDP start-up grant
Status: Principal investigator
Amount: $15 000
Duration: 2004-2007

Title: *Du développement de l'économie sociale à une nouvelle régulation socio-économique: un partenariat pour la recherche en économie sociale*
Agency: SSHRC
Program: CURA
Status: Co-investigator
Amount: $1 000 000
Duration: 2005-2009

Marguerite Mendell

Title: *Économie sociale: les dimensions conceptuelles et les questions de recherche*
Agency: SSHRC
Program: Presidential Fund for Innovation and Development
Status: Principal investigator
Amount: $4 000
Duration: 2004-2005

Title: *Solidarity Economy in Argentina – Training and Exchange Program*
Agency: International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
Program: Canadian Partnership Program
Status: Principal investigator
Amount: $31 300
Duration: 2004-2006

Title:	*Multiculturalisme et gouvernance territoriale dans l'arrondissement Villeray/Saint-Michel/Park Extension*
Agency:	SSHRC
Program:	Multiculturalism
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$50 000
Duration:	2005

Title:	*Du développement de l'économie sociale à une nouvelle régulation socio-économique: un partenariat pour la recherche en économie sociale*
Agency:	SSHRC
Program:	CURA
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$1 000 000
Duration:	2005-2009

Title:	*Socially Responsible Investment of Pension Funds in the New Economy*
Agency:	SSHRC
Program:	Initiative on the New Economy Research Alliance
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$950 000
Duration:	2003-2006

Title:	*Centre de recherche sur les innovations sociales en entreprises (CRISES)*
Agency:	FQRSC
Program:	Regroupements stratégiques
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$2 400 000
Duration:	2002-2008

Title:	*Projet pilote en téléformation à l'intention des communautés de langue officielle en situation minoritaire*
Agency:	Economic Development Canada
Program:	Research contract
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$210 500
Duration:	2004-2006

Title:	*L'investissement communautaire au Québec*
Agency:	Social Investment Organization and Fondaction (CSN)
Program:	Research contract
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$10 000
Duration:	2004

Title:	*Projet de recherche sur les quinze ans de la table de concertation Ville Saint-Michel en santé*
Agency:	Centraide du Grand Montréal
Program:	Research contract
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$15 000
Duration:	2004

Daniel Salée

Title:	*Nationalismes autochtones, citoyenneté et démocratie : le cas du Québec, 1971-2003*
Agency:	SSHRC
Program:	Standard research grants program
Status:	Principal investigator
Amount:	$212 150
Duration:	2004-2007

Title:	*Racisme, discrimination et les jeunes Arabo-Canadiens de la deuxième génération : les défis à la citoyenneté multiculturelle au Canada.*
Agency:	SSHRC
Program:	Multiculturalism Issues in Canada Program
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$37 883
Duration:	2005-2006

Title:	*Premières nations et peuples inuit du Canada : espaces politiques et dynamiques sociales*
Agency:	SSHRC
Program:	Research Cluster Design Program
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$30 000
Duration:	2004-2005

Title:	*DIALOG – Réseau québécois d'échange sur les questions autochtones*
Agency:	FQRSC
Program:	Regroupements stratégiques
Status:	Co-investigator
Amount:	$792 000
Duration:	2003-2007

Title:	*Observatoire international sur le racisme et les discriminations*
Agency:	SSHRC
Program:	Research development initiative
Status:	Co-investigator

Amount: $144 000
Duration: 2002-2005

Eric Shragge

Title: *The Changing Nature of Work and Lifelong Learning in the New Economy: National and Case Study Perspectives*
Agency : SSHRC
Program : Iniative in the New Economy – Collaborative Research Iniative
Status: Co-investigator and Project leader (*Learning to Labour in Canada: Rights and Organizing Strategies*)
Amount: $2 984 424 ($134 055 as Project Leader)
Duration: 2002-2005

Title: *Action collective et développement local dans un contexte métropolitain: le cas de Montréal*
Agency: SSHRC
Program: Standard Research Grants
Status: Co-investigator
Amount: $100 000
Duration: 2001-2004

Research activities (June 1, 2004 – May 31, 2005)

1. Scholarly publications

D'Amours, M., "Le travail autonome et la maîtrise du temps de travail" in P.A. Lapointe (ed.), *Le travail tentaculaire: existe-t-il une vie hors du travail?*, Proceedings of the 59th Congress of the Industrial Relations, Laval University, (Sainte-Foy: Presses de l'Université Laval, 2004), pp. 107-116.

D'Amours, M. (with S. Crespo), "Les dimensions de l'hétérogénéité de la catégorie de travailleur indépendant sans employé: éléments pour une typologie", *Relations industrielles*, vol. 59, no. 3, 2004, pp. 459-489.

Mendell, M. (with B. Lévesque), "The Social Economy: Approaches, Practices and a Proposal for a New Community-University Research Alliance (CURA)", *Journal of Rural Cooperation*, vol. 33, no. 1, 2005.

Mendell, M. (with B. Lévesque and R. Rouzier), "Nuevas formas de financiamiento de las empresas y organizaciones de la economia social en Quebec", *Finanzas y economia social*, capitulo 6 (Argentina: Editorial Altamira, Fundacion OSDE), 2005.

Mendell, M. (with R. Rouzier), "Quelques initiatives ayant permis l'institutionalisation de l'économie sociale au Quebec: rôle central de la société civile et rôle essentiel de l'État", *Finanzas y economia social*, capitulo 6 (Argentina: Editorial Altamira, Fundacion OSDE), 2005.

Salée, D. "Peuples autochtones, racisme et pouvoir d'État en contextes canadien et québécois: éléments pour une ré-analyse", *Nouvelles pratiques sociales*, vol. 17, no. 2, Spring 2005, pp. 54-74.

Salée, D. (with A.M. Field and K. Horn-Miller), "De la coupe aux lèvres: L'action politique des peuples autochtones sur la scène internationale et la reconfiguration des paramètres de la citoyenneté au Canada" in M. Labelle and F. Rocher (eds.), *Contestation transnationale, diversité et citoyenneté dans l'espace québécois* (Montreal: Presses de l'Université du Québec, 2004), pp. 157-206.

Shragge, E. "Community Economic Development (Canada)" in J. Herrick and P. Stuart (eds.), *Encyclopedia of Social Welfare History in North America*, (Thousand Oaks and New Delhi: Sage, 2004), pp. 64-66.

2. Conference papers

D'Amours, M. "Economia social y condiciones de trabajo y de empleo: El desafio de la innovacion", Fourth international conference *Las transformaciones de la modernidad excluyente y las politicas sociales*, Universidad nacional de Cordoba, Argentina, April 15, 2005.

Mendell, M., "Defining the Scope of the Social Economy". *The Policy Research Needed to Support the Social Economy.* Policy Research Initiative (PRI) and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Policy Research Roundtable. Ottawa, September 2004.

Mendell, M., "Le nouveau rôle des organisations de l'économie sociale: perspectives économiques et sociales". *Capacity Building Seminar on Social Economy and Social Innovation.* OECD-LEED Trento Centre for Local Development. Trento, Italy, November 2004.

Mendell, M., "Opening Address". *Karl Polanyi Commemorative Conference. Development and Regionalism. Karl Polanyi's Ideas and the Contemporary World System Transformation.* Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary, November 2, 2004.

Mendell, M., "The Coproduction of Public Policy. The Social Economy in Québec". Fourth internacional conference. *Las Transformaciones de la Modernidad Excluyente y las Políticas Sociales*, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Cordoba, Argentina, April 14-15, 2005.

Salée, D., "La notion de citoyenneté différenciée peut-elle s'appliquer au Québec? Regards critiques sur l'évolution récente de l'interface politique entre l'État québécois et les peuples autochtones". 14th Biennial Conference of the American Council of Quebec Studies, Château Frontenac, Quebec City, November 18-21, 2004.

Salée, D., "The Challenges of Indigenous Peoples to Public Policy-Making in Canada". Symposium on *Emerging Issues and Challenges in Public Policy*, Department of Political Science, Concordia University, Montreal, March 24, 2005.

Salée, D. (with C. Lévesque), "Québec's Approche commune: The Politics of Indigenous Land Rights and the Imperatives of Multicultural/Multinational Citizenship". 30th anniversary conference of the Centre of Canadian Studies on *First Nations, First Thoughts*, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, May 5-6, 2005.

Salée, D., "Looking Backward, Thinking Forward: Canadian Federalism, Multinational Citizenship and Political Reality". Conference of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations on *Looking Backward, Thinking Forward: 40 Years of Intergovernmental Relations*, School of Policy Studies, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, May 13-14, 2005.

Shragge, E., (with B. Fisher), "Contextualizing Community Organizing: Lessons from the Past, Tensions in the Present, Opportunities for the Future". Conference on *Community and Social Change*, Brown University, Providence, R.I., October 15, 2004.

Shragge, E. (with J.M. Fontan, P. Hamel and R. Morin), "Tackling Poverty in a Metropolitan Region: Community Development and Local Governance". International Conference for Integrating Urban Knowledge and Practice, *Life in the Urban Landscape*, Gothenburg, Sweden, May 29-June 1, 2005.

3. Research Reports

D'Amours, M. (with F. Lesemann), *Clés de lecture de l'enjeu du vieillissement de la main-d'oeuvre québécoise*. Avis au comité aviseur d'Emploi-Québec sur les travailleurs de 45 ans et plus. Winter 2005.

Mendell, M. (with B. Lévesque), *The Social Economy. Diversity of Approaches and Practices. Proposal for a New CURA Program on the Social Economy*. Document prepared for the President of the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada for the new CURA initiative by the Prime Minister of Canada. Fall 2004.

Mendell, M. (with B. Lévesque and R. Rouzier), *L'investissement communautaire au Québec*. Report prepared for the Association pour l'investissement responsible. Fall 2004.

4. Invited public lectures

D'Amours, M. "Economia social, movimientos sociales y institutionalizacion: la experiencia de Quebec". University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina, April 11, 2005.

D'Amours, M. Guest lecturer (3 classes), Seminar "Politicas y gestion publica comparada, Instituto de Investigacion y Formacion en Administracion Publica, Universidad Nacional de Cordoba, Argentina. April 18-22, 2005

Mendell, M., "L'économie sociale et solidaire au Québec: un prisme pour regarder l'expérience européene". *L'économie sociale et solidaire, acteur central de la cohésion sociale et de la Stratégie de Lisbonne.* Conférence européenne de la Plate-forme "Économie sociale et solidaire"- Luxembourg. Luxembourg, March 2005. (representing OECD - LEED).

Mendell, M., "La valeur ajoutée de l'économie sociale". *L'économie sociale et solidaire, acteur central de la cohésion sociale et de la Stratégie de Lisbonne.* Conférence européenne de la Plate-forme "Économie sociale et solidaire"-Luxembourg. Luxembourg, March 2005. (representing OECD-LEED).

Mendell, M., (with F. Lesemann, M. D'Amour, P.J. Ulysse and N. Neamtan),"La via quebecese de desarrollo económico y social. Estado Civil", Programa de formación internacional politicas y gestion publica comparada, Instituto de Investigacion y Formacion en Administracion Publica, Universidad Nacional de Cordoba, Argentina, April 2005.

Mendell, M. (with F. Lesemann and P.J. Ulysse), "Las politicas de inclusion social en Québec. Los programas de vivienda, familia, juventud", programa de formación internacional politicas y gestion publica comparada, Instituto de Investigacion y Formacion en Administracion Publica, Universidad Nacional de Cordoba, Argentina, April 2005.

Mendell, M. (with N. Neamtan), "La Economia social en Québec. Su significacion politica, economica y cultural", Programa de formación internacionalp politicas y gestion publica comparada, Instituto de Investigacion y Formacion en Administracion Publica Universidad Nacional de Cordoba, Argentina, April 2005.

Salée, D. "Premières Nations et peuple inuit – Espaces politiques et dynamiques sociales". Participant in a round table organized by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council in the context of the *Knowledge Project*, McCord Museum, Montreal, March 30, 2005.

Shragge, E., Two-day workshop on Community Organizing : History and Traditions, Summer School of the Institute in Management and Community Development, Concordia University, Montreal, June 16-17, 2004.

Shragge, E., One-day workshop on Community Organizing in English and French Communnities, Summer School of the Institute in Management and Community Development, Concordia University, Montreal, June 18, 2004.

Shragge, E., "Organizing for Power". Public lecture, Disabilities Studies, Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario, July 7, 2004.

Shragge, E., "Creating Social Change: Obstacles and Strategies". Panel of the Peace and Conflict Resolutions Series, Concordia University, Montreal, September 17, 2004.

Shragge, E., "Les valeurs et principes démocratiques et le caractère pluraliste de la société". Chinese Family Services, Montreal, March 6, 2005

Shragge, E., "Les expériences nord-américaines et canadiennes". Conference on *Les approaches intégrées en développement social urbain: enjeux et défis*. Forum régional sur le développement social de l'île de Montréal, Montreal, March 15, 2005.

Shragge, E. Presentation at the "Workshop on Community Organizing and Social Change". Annual conference of the Canadian Community Economic Development Network, Sault Saint Marie, Ontario, May 6, 2005.

Shragge, E., "Keynote Address". Annual Community Development Conference, London, Ontario, May 27, 2005.

5. Other publications

Shragge, E., "Shaping Neighourhoods: Montreal's Community Organizations and the (neo) liberal Agenda", *Canadian Dimension*, vol. 38, no. 6, December 2004, pp 51-53.

Shragge, E., "Mainstreaming CED and the Social Economy", *Making Waves*, vol. 15, no. 3, pp. 23-24.

Service

Being open to and involved with the outside world is an important aspect of what we are at the SCPA, and of how we understand our mission. In addition to the required service to the university, the faculty and staff of the School are also active in a number of professional and community organizations.

Perry Calce

Organizer, Concordia Classic (fund-raising golf tournament)
President, Park Extension Youth Organization, 2000-
Member, Board of Directors, CSLC Mont-Royal, 2003-
Member, Evaluation Committee, Fondation du Maire de Montréal, 2000-
Member, Board of Directors, FLI-Solide, CEDEC Côte-des-Neiges/Notre-Dame-de Grâces

Marguerite Mendell

Member, College of Reviewers, Canada Research Chairs, 2001-
Member, Comité des Gouverneurs, Réseau d'investissement social du Québec, 2003-
Member, Comité scientifique, Institut du nouveau monde, 2003-
Member, Board of Directors, Chantier de l'économie sociale, 2001-
Member, International Editorial Board, *Lien social et politiques*, 2002-
Member, Editorial Committee, *Économie et solidarités*, 1996-
Member, Advisory Board, *Study in Political Economy*, 2001-
Member, Scientific Advisory Group on Social Economy and Social Innovation, Trento Center for Local Development (OECD), 2004-
Member, Advisory Committee, Community Economic Development Technical Assistance Program, Carleton University, 2003-
Member, Governor General Gold Medal Award Committee, Concordia, 2005-
Member, Graduate Appeals Committee, 2004-2005
Member, SIP Sub-Committee, School of Graduate Studies Council, Concordia, 1999-
Member, Steering Committee, Community Roundtable Program, Institute for Community and Management Development, Concordia, 1996-
Member, Advisory Board and Resource Faculty, Institute for Community and Management Development, Concordia, 1993-
Director and Member of the Board, Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy, 1988-
Consultant to CBC-*Ideas* producer David Cayley on 5-hour documentary on Karl Polanyi

Daniel Salée

Member, College of Reviewers, Canada Research Chairs, 2003-
Member, Advisory Board, Institute of Intergovernmental Relations, Queen's University, 2003-

Member, Board of Directors, Observatoire international sur le racisme et les discriminations, UQAM, 2003-
Member, Board of Directors, DIALOG, le Réseau québécois d'échanges sur les questions autochtones, INRS-Société, Culture, Urbanisation, 2003-
Member, Fonds des services aux collectivités, Ministère de l'Éducation, Québec, 2002-2005
Member, Public Education Committee, Institute for the Study of Canada, McGill University, 2001-2005
Member, Humanities Doctoral Committee, School of Graduate Studies, Concordia, 1999-
Member, Distinguished Emeritus Professors Committee, Concordia, 2003-
Member, Board of Directors, Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy, Concordia, 1998-

Eric Shragge

President, Board of Directors, Centre for Community Organizations, Montreal, 2003-
President, Board of Directors, Immigrant Workers Center, Montreal, 2003-
Member, Advisory Committee, Canadian Community Development Network, 2000-
Member, Education and Research Committee, Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers, 2001-
Member, Board of Directors, L'Action Communiterre, 2003-

Public Events and Activities

October 2004

12 – ***"Borders Matter: Homeland Security and the Search for North America"***
Public lecture by Daniel Drache, Assistant Director of the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies and professor of Political Economy at York University.

February 2005

10 – ***"The Crisis in Sudan/Darfur: Reports from the Front Line***
Public Lecture with Dr. Leander Schneider (Associate Professor, Political Science, Concordia University), Mr. Patrick Lemieux (filed Worker, Médecins Sans Frontieres) and Mr. Patrick Robitaille (Médecins Sans Frontieres) In Collaboration with The Concordia-UQAM Chair in Ethnic Studies and The McGill Refugee Research Project.

17 – ***"The Dilemmas of Deliberative Democracy***"
Public lecture by Professor Erik Olin Wright (Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, Madison) and Professor Archon Fung (John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University). In collaboration with The Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy and CRISES-Concordia University.

March 2005

1 – ***"The Digital Divide: Access to the Internet - Privilege or Right?"***
Panel Discussion with representatives from the government and community sector.

15 – ***"Re-engineering the Quebec State: Modernisation or Dismembering of our Public Institutions"***
Panel Discussion – Speakers: Mr. Louis Roy (First Vice-President of the CSN), Mr. Tom Pentefountas (Vice-President of L'Action Democratique du Quebec) & Ms. Alexandra Pierre (Coordinator at the organization D'Abord Solidaires).

22 – ***"Access to Post-Secondary Education"***
Panel Discussion – Speakers: Sebastien Cloutier (President du Parti Québécois, Conseil National de La Jeunesse), Christian de Serres (Vice-President de l'Action democratique du Quebec), Pierre-Andre Bouchard St-Amant (President de la Fédération des étudiants universitaires du Québec), Arielle Reid (VP External CSU) & the moderator Paul Huynh (member of the Conseil Permanent Jeunesse)

29 – ***"Wasase: Indigenous Pathways of Action and Freedom"***
Public Lecture by Dr. Taiaiake Alfred, Canada Research Chair and Director of the Indigenous Governance Program at the University of Victoria.

29 – ***"Bargaining for Power: Our Energy. Our Environment. Should we Compromise?***
Panel Discussion – Speakers: Rita Dionne-Marsolais (Official Opposition Critic for Energy), Claude Demers (Scientific Communication, Hydro-Québec), Philippe Bourke (Director General; RNCREQ) & Charles Tanguay (Communications Director; L'Union des Consommateurs du Québec).

April 2005

27 – ***"Overruling Judaism: The Israeli Supreme Court vs. Jewish Tradition"***
Public Lecture by Me Shamai Leibowitz, lawyer, Tel-Aviv, Israel. In collaboration with The Concordia-UQAM Chair in Ethnic Studies.

June 2005

10 – ***"School of Community and Public Affairs' 25th Anniversary"***
Anniversary Celebration with faculty, staff, atudents and Alumni of the School at the Restaurant Hélène de Champlain on Ile Sainte-Hélène.

25th anniversary celebration

The year ended on a most cheerful note as faculty, staff, alumni, students and friends gathered at Restaurant Hélène de Champlain on June 10, 2005 to mark the 25th anniversary of the SCPA. The Master of Ceremony was alumnus John Moore (BA, 1988), radio host on CJAD in Montreal and CFRB in Toronto. Also in attendance were Vice President, Services, Mike Di Grappa, Vice Provost, Research, Vo Van Truong, Dean of Arts and Science, June Chaikelson, Dean of Graduate Studies, Elizabeth Sacca and Vice Dean Joanne Locke. Dr. Marguerite Mendell was presented with an award for "20 years of dedication, mentoring and devotion" by the staff, students and alumni of the School. Dr. Mendell was Principal of the School for 10 years of its 25-year history.

From left to right, Dr. Daniel Salée, Dr. Eric Shragge and Dr. Martine D'Amours

Dr. Marguerite Mendell, received an award for "20 years of dedication, mentoring and devotion" presented by the staff, students and alumni of the SCPA

Vice President, Services, Mike Di Grappa (left) and other SCPA alumni.

Master of Ceremony, Mike Moore is flanked by alumnae Andie Zeliger (and her husband) and Desiree McGraw.

A most pleasant evening at Hélène de Champlain.

The SCPA in the news

First sustainability co-ordinator appointed at Concordia

BY BARBARA BLACK

Photo by Barbara Black

Melissa Garcia Lamarca's involvement in the student-run Sustainable Concordia Project has turned into a two-year contract as the university's first sustainability co-ordinator.

Melissa has a BA in geography and economics from McGill and a graduate diploma in community economic development from Concordia.

From its inception in the summer of 2002, she was the auditor for the Sustainable Concordia Project (SCP), researching the university's social, ecological and economic practices with a view to making them more sustainable.

She was one of the authors of the project's report (you can read it at www.concordia.ca/sustainability), and worked closely with student groups in raising funds and support. She defines sustainability as the synergy the between ecological, social and economic goals and actions.

The SCP has an advisory board that includes faculty and staff with passion for such issues. This has led to a number of academic initiatives, notably a geography course on sustainability. It has also sparked student initiatives in design, bookkeeping, and other subjects.

Thanks to SCP activism, Concordia's shuttle buses now run between campuses on fuel that is two per-cent biodiesel.

In her new position, Melissa will try to implement the recommendations of the Concordia Campus Sustainability Assessment, and encourage sustainability initiatives among administrators, faculty, students and staff.

For example, a group of students has been working on a proposal to rehabilitate the large space on the fourteenth floor of the Hall Building, where the Biology Department housed its greenhouse before relocating to the Renaud Science Complex.

Based on a feasibility study by students in the GEOG 398S class, the SCP and the Concordia Student Union have launched a campaign called R4 Concordia: Rethink, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. The idea is to educate and encourage the university community on waste management practices.

Melissa can be contacted at sustainability@concordia.ca or at ext. 5202. She is located in the Environmental Health and Safety Office, GM 1100-50.

Tomorrow, throughout the day, a "sustainability fair," with exhibits, activities and free food, will be held on the terrace behind the Hall Building .

Creating Social Change: Obstacles and Strategies

September 17, 2004

The Sustainable Concordia Project, in co-operation with the Department of Geography, Planning and Environment at Concordia University, is pleased to announce that renowned social activist Rinku Sen will be speaking on a panel with Concordia professors Eric Shragge and Yasmin Jiwani, at the University on Friday, September 17, at 5 p.m., in room H-110 of the Henry F. Hall Building (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West). The topic will be Creating Social Change: Obstacles and Strategies. This is the first event in this year's Peace and Conflict Resolution public lecture series and admission is free.

Sen will share her experiences working inside and outside the system, and on affecting change on various levels — from crafting public policy to grassroots organizing in diverse communities. Nationally recognized for her organizing work, she has also written extensively about the race and gender dimensions of community organizing and has consulted frequently with organizations and foundations.

While describing the obstacles that hinder change, Sen will also discuss strategies to overcome them. She will outline some of the issues related to social change that are often at the root of conflicts, such

as gender, ethnicity, disability, and cultural diversity. She will be citing examples from her own work, addressing these issues in both high and low-income countries.

Concordia faculty members Dr. Eric Shragge from the School of Community and Public Affairs and Dr. Yasmin Jiwani from the Department of Communication Studies will also discuss their work and experience in this area. This lecture will allow for audience participation in the form of a 45-minute panel discussion.

Rinku Sen is the publisher of ColorLines magazine and Communications Director of the Applied Research Center (ARC). She has a rich history of organizing, writing and lecturing on issues of race, gender and activism, poverty, education, racial and gender equity, health care and immigration issues. She is currently pursuing a M.A. in Journalism at Columbia University. Her latest book, Stir It Up: Lessons in Community Organizing (2003), is a guide for community organizations of all orientations.

For information about this particular event, contact Melissa Garcia Lamarca, Sustainability Co-ordinator at (514) 848-2424, ext. 5202 or at mgl@alcor.concordia.ca . For updates about the series, please contact Laurie Lamoureux Scholes at peace@alcor.concordia'.

29, NO.2
SEPTEMBER 23, 2004

Activism is where your friends are, say veterans of struggle

School of Community and Public Affairs professor Eric Shragge provided an insider's history of the Quebec community movement, including a blunt assessment of its recent travails, at a panel discussion on Sept. 17.

The 1960s saw the emergence of a grass roots community movement in Quebec, including a vital English-speaking anti-poverty movement, which Shragge joined as a young social worker.

"That was when poor people began to take and demand control of their own lives, and mobilize and organize, occupy welfare offices and struggle for social justice."

By the late 1970s and early '80s, however, countervailing forces began to erode and strain this community-level social safety net.

"A combination of massive inflation and unemployment, a redefinition of economic production away from blue-collar towns and neighborhoods, closing of factories in Montreal.

"Instead of the state saying, 'This is a crisis, we really have to do something about it,' they created an enemy out of the poor and the working class, engaging in union-bashing, wage freezes and cutbacks."

The response of the community sector was surprisingly passive. "You would think that people would get really pissed off and mobilize. No, they became junior service providers. There was a shift from a highly politicized sector to an innovative, creative, service sector."

Shragge allows that community groups had little choice for this defensive posture.

"They were stuck; the state was withdrawing services. They saw increasing poverty. In acts of solidarity, they created new services like food banks, so that people could survive. And with some exceptions, the organizing and mobilizing agenda of the community sector started to disappear."

Shragge is been encouraged by signs of a return to more activism, and he called for an increasingly oppositional approach to complement the service model "if we do political education, if we mobilize and try to touch people's lives, and not give up the idea of making demands on the system.

"We shouldn't say, 'We're in a neo-liberal system and a globalized world and the market is all we've got.' If we say that, it will be realized for sure. If we make demands, then maybe we'll win some victories along the way."

The next speaker, New York-based social activist and author Rinku Sen, said that a similar disengagement of the state from social services occurred in the U.S. in the 1990s.

"The right wing ran a tremendous 30-year campaign to undo welfare, and they won. In 1996, with the Welfare Reform Act, we essentially lost our welfare system.

"You can no longer get income support because you are poor and you need it; now you can only get that kind of support if you work for it. There are a lot of inequities; if you're working 30 hours a week for your $200 welfare cheque, that's less than minimum wage."

Sen said the key to battling such setbacks is an "inside-outside" strategy in which a sympathetic insider within an institution provides key support and information to activists.

"The outsider's job is to apply pressure that escapes the established channels of change and complaint — of due process — when they're not working. The insider's job is to open a space for the voice of the constituency [making demands] and to defend that constituency. The insider provides information to the outsiders."

Concordia Communication Studies professor Yasmin Jiwani agreed. "Institutions are not monolithic, but they are full of individuals with different alliances. How did feminism ever get off the ground with so little power? It was through alliances with 'femocrats' in institutions."

One institution that activists need to cultivate is the media. In Canada, according to Jiwani, subtle censorship due to media concentration means that views outside the mainstream are often left out.

She proposes that outsider activists to write for the alternative media.

"The mainstream media often look to the alternative media for something new. It's a way of galvanizing mainstream interest in a subject."

During question-and-answer period, the speakers were asked how to deal with fear.

Jiwani responded that even in a democracy, where there is no fear of a secret police breaking down your door, "society does cultivate an internalized, paralyzing fear which says that if you do certain things, then you won't belong, but we can find belonging within our own communities."

As an activist acquaintance of Shragge's succinctly put it, "I guess do this because this is where my friends are."

The panel was the first event in this year's Peace and Conflict Resolution Public Lecture Series.

Concordia Students Recognized by Forces AVENIR

MONTREAL/October 7, 2004 –

http://www.forcesavenir.qc.ca/
http://publicaffairs.concordia.ca

MONTREAL/October 7, 2004 – Concordia University is proud to announce that several of its exemplary students have been awarded the Prix d'excellence in the Project category by Forces AVENIR at its 2004 awards gala, held last night at the Théâtre Granada in Sherbrooke. The recognition comes with a $15,000 award.

The Concordia chapter of Engineers Without Borders, together with its sister chapters at McGill and the Ecole Polytechnique, won the Prix d'excellence in the Project category for their Water for the World initiative. The project involved engaging high school students with innovative classroom presentations on water issues on both a local and global scale, and featured an interactive competition among the high school students to design their own simplified water filters for application in developing countries. The project reached over 30 classes with hundreds of students, and discussions are under way with the English Montreal School Board to continue the project as part of its curriculum.

Melissa Garcia-Lamarca, was a finalist in the Personalité AVENIR - Graduates category. She recently completed her graduate studies in economic and community development at Concordia before being retained as the university's first Sustainability Coordinator. Born and raised in Montreal, she holds a BA in geography and economics with a minor in international development studies from McGill University. Melissa's commitment to the environment and fluency in English, French and Spanish have taken her to projects in such diverse locations as San Francisco, Australia and Argentina. Her

impact at Concordia has been profound, having co-authored the extensive Sustainability Report, which is now being used as a model for other Canadian universities.

"We are exceedingly proud of our students and the commitment with which they continue to contribute to the university community and to the world at large," proclaimed Dr. Frederick Lowy, President and Vice-Chancellor of Concordia University. "They are a true credit to their university, and demonstrate a wonderful application of our motto: 'real education for the real world'."

Forces Avenir is a non-profit organization, made up of numerous partners, including the Québec government, universities and several other large organizations. It aims to recognize, honor and promote young people's commitment to projects which enhance knowledge and arouse the desire to succeed.

Forces AVENIR each year recognizes individual students and student groups by providing awards, international internships and financial awards. Previous Concordia students and initiatives recognized include: Miguel Da Costa Frias (1999 finalist), Suzanne Bate (2000 finalist), The Art Matters Festival (2001 Award recipients), and Mobilivre-Bookmobile (2002 finalists). Group Creative Arts Therapies (2002 finalists), Louise Hénault-Ethier (2003 finalist), Geneva Guérin (2003 finalist), Group Therapy Used in the Treatment of Adolescent Girls Diagnosed with Anorexia Nervosa (2003 finalists), Mission CommEx (2003 Award recipients).

Le mercredi 22 septembre 2004

LES ÉLECTIONS SOUS SURVEILLANCE INTERNATIONALE AUX ÉTATS-UNIS

Un professeur de Concordia à la rescousse de la démocratie américaine

Alexandre Sirois
La Presse
Washington

Après avoir été politicien au Canada pendant une trentaine d'années, David MacDonald est prêt à partager son expérience avec un pays où «la démocratie est encore en train de se développer». Il avait jadis été recruté pour observer des élections en Éthiopie et il fait actuellement le même travail... aux États-Unis.

Ancien ministre des Communications sous le gouvernement conservateur de Joe Clark, M. MacDonald fait partie d'une équipe de 20 observateurs originaires de 14 pays qui parcourent le territoire américain depuis la semaine dernière.

«Je pense que ce qui s'est passé en Floride lors de l'élection de l'an 2000 a été en quelque sorte un *wake up call*, a expliqué hier M. MacDonald. On a soudainement réalisé qu'en fait, aucune démocratie n'est parfaite. Que toutes les démocraties sont des *work in progress* et qu'il y a peut-être des aspects du processus démocratique américain qui avaient un sérieux besoin de changement.»

Une organisation non gouvernementale américaine située à San Francisco, Global Exchange, a mis sur pied l'équipe d'observateurs. Au fil des ans, elle a expédié de tels groupes dans 10 pays. Elle espère qu'aux États-Unis, la démarche permettra l'avènement d'un «processus politique plus transparent».

Rassurer les Américains

Re-engineering of Quebec draws fire from activists on panel

BY SYLVAIN COMEAU

The current re-engineering of the Quebec state is really destruction of its cherished institutions, speakers at a Concordia panel argued recently.

Louis Roy, first vice-president of the CSN, said the Charest government has broken records for voter dissatisfaction and manage to maintain those low numbers as a result. His union has taken up the fight against the current government because that is part of a union's mandate.

"Everywhere in the world, any time right-wing governments want to impose neo-liberal policies, the first line of resistance always comes from unions. That's because unions are the best organized to mobilize resistance."

He said the CSN would prefer to sit down to talk rather than fight, but the government has left no room for such an interchange.

"There has been an inflation of rhetoric on both sides, and a growing chasm between the two; there is no common area for debate and dialogue. If the government doesn't want to negotiate, we have to react and make them listen, which is something very different from a dialogue."

As if to prove his point, two of Quebec's three major political parties declined an invitation to send a representative to the panel; one accepted, but the designated spokesman failed to appear. "I don't want to criticize people who aren't here, but I live with this all the time," Roy said, gesturing at the empty seats.

The sole other speaker was Alexandra Pierre, coordinator at the citizen's movement organization D'abord Solidaires. She said re-engineering is "a menace to our institutions, and public access to them."

"This is the Quebec version of the IMF and World Bank reforms which have been implemented in the Southern countries of the world. We're seeing a steady disappearance of social services, deteriorating health care, cuts in financial support for students and environmental protection."

Don MacPherson, Gazette Quebec affairs columnist and moderator for the event, asked whether the province still has the means to pay for public institutions, considering that Quebec is more indebted, taxed and poorer than the ROC. In addition, Quebec will soon have two retirees for every worker.

Pierre answered, "The demographic crisis has been exaggerated, because we've greatly increased our productivity. The question isn't whether we're rich enough, because we've never been as rich as we are today. The question is whether we can escape from the narrow ideological framework of today's administration."

At the federal level, the current ballooning government surplus is an alarming sign of apathy to public needs.

"I simply don't believe them when they say that we can no longer afford the public services that we collectively decided, a long time ago, that we want and need. The proof is that

governments amuse themselves with projects and schemes we don't need, and waste money on things like the sponsorship scandal."

Roy said nationalist squabbling in Quebec has detracted from broader issues. "We became so polarized over the nationalist question that we lost sight of what else the state is all about. We don't live in a sect; we live in a pluralistic society with many ideas, and those ideas must circulate."

The problem goes far beyond the ideologies of a given political party.

"In two years, we'll be facing a choice between the Liberals and PQ again. No matter whom we elect, they will do what they want without consulting the public. The problem was not created by the Liberals; the problem is a democratic deficit in Quebec. We need to re-appropriate a political space where ordinary citizens can have a say in how the state is run."

The panel was organized by students of the School of Community and Public Affairs.

Silver anniversaries

Science College and the SCPA celebrate 25 years of innovative learning

Twenty-five years ago Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science took the bold step of creating a new model, or more precisely five new models, for undergraduate education. The Faculty welcomed the arrival of several small units that would offer unique programs of study for a select group of students. Two of the colleges celebrated their silver anniversaries earlier this year. Now the School of Community Affairs and Science College take a moment to look back at what they have achieved and contemplate the bright future ahead.

School of Community and Public Affairs

Founded by Dr. Blair Williams with the assistance of Dr. Andrew Gollner, the School of Community and Public Affairs (SCPA) was originally aimed at training people who would eventually go on to work in government. The hope was that more anglophones and allophones would enter the Quebec public service, or other sectors focused on public policy and policy advocacy. Prior to 2000, SCPA students could only be accredited as "members" of the School. Since 2000, they now have the opportunity to pursue a major in Community, Public Affairs and Policy Studies. The major is an undergraduate program designed to provide an interdisciplinary training and education in public policy analysis and policy advocacy by offering students a unique, bilingual university experience in a small, personalized learning environment. SCPA seeks to educate its students to be sensitive to the broad social, economic and political factors that are part of the public policy process.

The SCPA's current Principal, Dr. Daniel Salée, is especially proud of the school's outreach mission.

Through numerous, free-access public lectures, symposia, and public debates organized by its members, the school brings in scholars, activists, and policy makers of national and international reputation. As such, the SCPA acts as an important forum in the Montreal area for the discussion and understanding of the key policy, public affairs and community issues of our times. One of the school's most ambitious current projects is spearheaded by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) and involves collaboration with Simon Fraser University and two Ukrainian Universities: Uzhgorod National University and Cherkasy State Technological University. "We are working to train 10-12 professors from Ukraine in Community Economic Development," explains Dr. Salée. "This kind of project, which has a practical and postive impact on international governance is a perfect demonstration of how we see the mission of SCPA."

traditional boundaries between disciplines…"

The school has also made an impact at home through a raft of impressive graduates who have left an important mark on Quebec and Canadian politics, notably Mario Dumont, Leader of the Action Démocratique party, Glen Murray, a former Mayor of Winnipeg. Other graduates typically go on to work in law, government, the social sector, and the media.

One graduate, Theodora Samiotis, explained how SCPA's program helped her to develop skills that would come in particularly useful when she eventually made it to Parliament Hill as an Assistant to MP Eleni Bakapanos: "It was working in Ottawa that I think my learning experience at SCPA served me most. My understanding of government and the policy process allowed me to hit the ground running." explained Samiotis. "I then spent two years at the Office of the Minister of National

Defence as his special assistant for Quebec. Again, this was a memorable experience. My learnings
from the SCPA were also useful as I was responsible for managing the various constituencies, MPs,
policy makers, the military, etc. and providing political advice to the minister." Samiotis eventually left Ottawa to accept a position as Director of Communications and Public Affairs for one of Canada's
largest and oldest pharmaceutical companies, Wyeth Canada. Again, her unique SCPA interdisciplinary
training has come in useful as she was responsible for all communications activities and acted as spokesperson for the company.

In 1999, SCPA initiated a Graduate Diploma Program in Community Economic Development, the only program of its kind in Eastern Canada and the only one in the country to alternate languages.

The school is now able to provide opportunities for continued studies beyond the undergraduate field for its students. 'I'm proud of how we've grown," adds Dr. Salée. "I think we've created something
truly unique, which fills a valuable niche in the Canadian university system."